

#### UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

October 13, 2017

Office of International and Tribal Affairs

U.S. Department of State Office of Designation SA-44, 6<sup>TH</sup> Floor 301 4<sup>th</sup> Street SW Washington, DC 20547

Annual Report J-Nonimmigrant Exchange Visitor Program

# **Program Effectiveness**

EPA's work with foreign nationals under the J-1 Visa Student and Exchange Visitors Program (SEVP) Program Number G-3-00345 has included research in water and soil assessment, monitoring of air and water for human exposure assessment, testing of ambient air particulate matter, performance of nano particles, and risk assessment for chemicals, urban land use and green infrastructure for safe and sustainable water resources.

During the reporting period. - 10/01/2016 to 09/30/2017. The Research Scholar, Patricia Villela e Silva is a doctoral student at the Institute of Biosciences in Botucatu, Sâo Paulo University, who was awarded a scholarship for the Research Internships Abroad Project and did her internship with Dr. Gary Klinefelter. She ran a study in which the goal was to evaluate the effects of sub chronic treatment with bupropion and simvastatin on sperm parameters and fertility in adult rats. Rats were dosed with both compounds and a mixture of the two for 51 days. The endpoints were to evaluate sperm parameters and testicular and epididymal histology, identify and quantify proteins associated with fertility, evaluate the *in vitro* synthesis of testosterone by Leydig cells after the *in vivo* exposure to the drugs and correlate fertility after *in utero* artificial insemination with the above mentioned parameters. During her time here she learned multiple techniques associated with the collection, processing and analysis of these endpoints. These data are being used as part of her doctoral thesis.

# Trends/Changes:

EPA again has seen a slight increase in the processing of the J-1 Visa Research Scholars during this reporting period.

### **New Initiatives**

EPA has no new initiatives planned at this time.

#### Difficulties.

EPA has not encountered any difficulties in the processing of the J-1 Visa Research Scholars during this period.

## Reciprocity

Reciprocity has been none.

## **Cross-Cultural Activities**

The Research Scholar rented a room from a professor at Duke so she lived in a Durham neighborhood in a typical home. She did have friends that she made from Duke and was able to travel to the Outer Banks and Washington DC. One of the first things she did was to find a local bike shop that sold second hand bikes. She volunteered for a couple of hours, and in exchange they gave her a bike! She used that bike to ride to and from the bus stop on the weekends. She also enrolled in Durham Tech for some English classes. She spent much of her free time writing her doctoral thesis. She took a Durham city Tour.

## Staff

EPA Alternative Responsible Officer (ARO) dedicates 0.25 FTE in processing the Agency's J-1 Visa Research Scholars.

#### Comments:

There continues to be an interest within the Agency to work with foreign research scholars on scientific matters that will benefit the environment. We look forward to fostering new exchanges in the next year.

Catrina D. Cherry, Responsible Officer

Office of International and Tribal Affairs



#### U.S. Department of State

# ANNUAL REPORT J-NONIMMIGRANT Exchange Visitor Program

OMB Approval No. 1405-0151 Expires : 04/30/2017 Estimate Burden: 2 Hours

Responsible Officer
Sponsoring Organization
Address

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW

Program Number G-3-00345

Reporting Period 10/01/2016 - 09/30/2017

Include This Information on Any Attachments

#### STATISTICAL REPORT

1. Activity by Category		
Category	Total Number of Records Created in Each Category to begin a New Program	
	J - 1	J - 2
1. RESEARCH SCHOLAR	9	
Total Number of Records	9	

Washington, DC 20460

2. Reconciliation of Forms DS-2019		
Use of Forms DS-2019 During the Reporting Period	Number of Forms DS-2019	
A. Allotment Carried Over from Previous Reporting Period	5	
B. Allotment Received from DOS During Reporting Period	0	
C. Number of Records Available During the Reporting Period (Add A + B)	5	
D. Number of Records DS-2019 Created During the Reporting Period	9	
E. Total Number of Invalid Records	1	
F. Remaining Records Available at End of Reporting Period (C - D + E =F)	5	

3. Record Statuses	Number of Records
A. Active Records	3
B. Inactive Records	145
C. No Show Records	0
D. Terminated Records	0
E. Initial Records	2
F. Invalid Records	17
G. Transferred Records	3

# Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) Statement

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average two hours per response, including time required for searching existing data sources, gathering the necessary documentation, providing the information and/or documents required, and reviewing the final collection. You do not have to supply this information unless this collection displays a currently valid OMB control number. If you have comments on the accuracy of this burden estimate and/or recommendations for reducing it, please send them to: U.S. Department of State, Office of Designation SA-44, 6th Floor, 301 4th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20547.

#### PROGRAM EVALUATION

A core mission of the Exchange Visitor Program is to promote mutual understanding between people of the United States and other countries through educational and cultural exchanges. Your comments and assessments help us present the success of our shared mission of exchange to Congress, interested government agencies, and International agencies and organizations. Please provide brief responses to the following questions.

- 1. Summary: Provide a brief summary of the activities in which exchange visitors were engaged, including:
  - 1A. Program Effectiveness: Please provide an evaluation of program effectiveness including a description of one or two brief success stories that occurred during the reporting period.
  - 1B. Trends/Changes: Describe any new directions, trends or significant changes that have occurred in your program during the reporting period.
  - 1C. New Initiatives: Describe any new initiatives that you are planning in the upcoming year.
- 2. Difficulties: What difficulties are you having that are working against the quality and quantity of exchanges in your program and in the broader Exchange Visitor Program? Examples: Credible employers, job availability, wages, housing, Consular Official/Visa issues, etc.
- 3. Reciprocity: Describe the nature and extent of reciprocity occurring in your exchange visitor program during the reporting year. If none, state: none.
- 4. Cross-Cultural Activities: Provide a summary of the cross-cultural activities you as a sponsor provided for your exchange visitors during the reporting year and your other efforts as a sponsor to ensure cultural exchange for your exchange visitors.
- 5. Staff: Identify the number of staff (full and part time) used in the administration of your exchange visitor program.
  Examples: Private sector entities should include total local and regional representatives, independent contractors, third parties, foreign agents, and volunteers.
- 6. Other comments:

#### CERTIFICATION

I certify that the information in this report is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief; and, that the above named program sponsor has complied with all health and accident insurance requirements for exchange visitors and their accompanying spouses and dependents [22 CFR 62.14].

Katrina Cherry

Name of Responsible Officer (Printed or Typed)

Signature of Responsible Officer (Signed)

Date (mm-dd-yyyy)

SEVIS Run Date: Wed Oct 11 2017

Submission of Form DS-3097 shall be sent to:

U.S. Department of State Office of Designation SA-44, 6th Floor 301 4th Street, SW Washington, DC 20547

Or By Email: EVPadministration@state.gov or AGExchanges@state.gov